

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In continuation of: FERREE

Serial No.: 09/638,241

Group No.: 3731

Filed: August 14, 2000

Examiner: U. Ho

For: METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR TREATING DISC HERNIATION AND  
PREVENTING THE EXTRUSION OF INTERBODY BONE GRAFT

Continuation application: FERREE

Attorney Docket No. BAF-11803/29

For: METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR TREATING DISC HERNIATION AND  
PREVENTING THE EXTRUSION OF INTERBODY BONE GRAFT

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-referenced continuation application as follows:

GIFFORD, KRASS, GROH, SPRINKLE, ANDERSON & CITKOWSKI, P.C. 280 N. OLD WOODWARD AVENUE, STE. 400, BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN 48009-5394 (248) 647-6000